

## November 17, 2008 AWDF Teleconference Official Minutes

**Meeting began 8:10 CST**

### **Attendance:**

Pres. Al Govednik, Vice Pres. Lyle Roetemeyer,  
Treasurer: Sean O'Kane, Secretary: Michelle Testa,  
Executive Dirs. Vera Reeves, Glenn Stephenson, Gary Patterson (absent)

### **Clubs with Delegate Representation:**

United Doberman Club, United States Rottweiler Club  
United Schutzhund Clubs of America, Working Riesenschнауzer Federation  
North American Working Bouvier, United States Mondioring Assoc. LV/DVG America  
Federation American Bulldog, North American Working Airedale Terrier Assoc. &  
United States Boxer Assoc

### **Clubs absent:**

Authentic Hovawarts of North America, Society in America for the Cane Corso Italiano  
Working Pit Bull Terrier Club of America, American Working Malinois Assoc

Total present on the call **17**

Delegates present **11**

### **President's report**

Al began the meeting letting everyone know his trip to Europe in December will be a judges meeting discussing the new rules to be implemented in 2010. The changes that will be presented Al feels 75% sure things will be changing. A USA club delegate was present for the SV meeting and the same changes were discussed.

Al congratulated Lyle on his re-election as USA President and to Sean O'Kane as the new Treasurer for USA. Al was also re-elected as a USA DAL.

He continued on to say that it was interesting that not too far back in time the club had to drag people in to the AWDF organization and it now seems we have people that other organizations are looking as positive assets to their own clubs (specifically speaking about Sean O'Kane's new position in USA.)

Al in closing stated he will have more to report when he returns from Europe.

### **Vice President's report**

No report at this time

### **Treasurer Report**

Sean reports that we are staying within our goals. The purchase of additional scorebooks put us a bit over in office supplies but the re-coop should quick as USA has committed to purchasing 2000 of them.

Next yrs budget projections are almost finished and should be together by the next conference call.

Sean and Al anted to congratulate USA for their success in making over \$80,000.00 in profit at the WUSV event. Carole Patterson continued in congratulating the USA say that the reports she received from the DVG people in attendance was that it was a sterling event. The AWDF board would like to extend kudos to USA on such a successful event.

### **Secretary report**

Michelle asked that if there were any questions on the draft of the Sept TC minutes May Jacobson made the motion to accept the minutes- Ann Putegnatt seconded the motion and no one opposed - September minutes were accepted.

Michelle thanked all who took the time to submit the statistic form and that she is still waiting for information from the Boxer club and the WRSF

### **AWDF 2009 Championship**

Things are moving smoothly, the stadium choices are down to 2, and the website is almost complete and so far 250 acres of land have been secured for tracking. We are still waiting on the European judges bios for info for the site. The apparel for the event is coming along an estimated cost was submitted. The trophy list was submitted and Sean O'Kane made a challenge to all the AWDF member clubs to sponsor their respective trophy with DVG and Mondio choosing amongst other available awards such as the "Team trophies"

The committee is still looking at different companies for the awards. Lisa Camuso mentioned a company and will send along the web address to Sean.

### **Event Deadlines**

Helpers interested in working the championship may submit a letter of interest beginning February 1, 2009 with a closing date of April 9, 2009

Included in the letter of interest should be a resume, # of trials worked, total # of dogs Al G asks that these letters be sent to him.

The discussion on a deadline for entries to the event was lengthy. The suggestion was made that 2 weeks, which would be May 9<sup>th</sup> (a post mark date of May 4 a postmark date was suggested) would be doable for member clubs to submit their packets and leave enough time for the official event trial secretary to receive and prepare trial paperwork. It was also reviewed that to prevent confusion at all clubs must work out their own deadline with late dates and that all member clubs will mail their entry packets to Michelle (AWDF Secretary) with 1 single check. Michelle will then forward all paperwork to the official event trial secretary. As soon as it is clear on the dates there will be a posting on the official AWDF website and event site.

### **Al Govednik and trips to Europe**

Sean O'Kane reminded everyone how important it is to have Al in attendance at the FCI meetings Carole Patterson (LV/DVG Amer.) states that these trips are real work and supports the investment. Vera Reeves (WRSF) stated nothing could be more important than making these personal contacts Al G. reminded everyone that these relationships that have been developed has given us the opportunity to obtain current information regularly

### **AWDF Score book review**

Clubs are moving forward with acquiring the AWDF scorebook.

There was discussion by USRC President Wayne S. on membership status in relation to the books as well as disciplinary actions and AWDF member clubs honoring these situations. Identifying club representation was a concern and Glenn Stephenson, Carole

Patterson and Robin Holley (WRSF Pres.) all stated that a proof of current membership can be verified by the membership card.

### **Events committee Update**

2009 Events Committee

Al G. appointed Sean O’Kane as Committee Chair

Other committee members are Erik Storm, Wendy Schmidt, Michelle Testa Lyle Roetemeyer and James Honda

### **FCI Team Selection Committee**

Al Govednik appointed Michelle Testa as Committee Chair citing that because of her position as Secretary and the amount of paperwork involved it would best for her to head up this committee. Bill Bimrose, Al Govednik and Angeli will also sit on the committee.

Al Govednik asked that Michelle define the committees for the minutes

### **Article \*\*VII\*\*. Committees. ( AWDF C&B/L) \***

**A.** The AWDF has three standing committees. All standing committee members are elected by majority vote of the General Board. Any member in good standing of any of the member clubs is eligible to serve on a standing committee. Members of all standing committees serve for two years and may be re-elected.

**a.** Nominations Committee. The nominations committee assembles a slate of candidates to fill existing or upcoming vacancies among the officers or at-large Executive Committee members. The Secretary circulates the slate to the General Board at least 30 days before the annual meeting. This committee is elected on even numbered years.

**b.** Board of Inquiry. The Board of Inquiry hears cases of alleged misconduct and alleged violations of AWDF regulations. The Board of Inquiry has five members and two alternates. Members of the Executive Committee may not serve on the Board of Inquiry. The Board of Inquiry selects one of its members to be its chair. Three members of the Board should be present at the annual championship to serve as a bench committee. This may include alternates. This committee is elected on even numbered years.

**c.** Events Committee. The events committee establishes rules for hosting AWDF events, recommends slates of judges, works with member clubs’ working and sport committees to ensure events are run according to AWDF guidelines. This committee is elected on odd numbered years.

**B.** The President or the Executive Committee may appoint committees needed to conduct the business of AWDF, such as the Judges Committee, the Publications Committee, and the FCI Team Selection Committee. Appointed committees expire at the next election of officers, although they may be reappointed.

**A. \*AWDF/FCI Team Selection Committee Guidelines\*\*\***

1. The Committee will request team submissions from the member club Delegates and Presidents via e-mail
2. The Committee will make this request at 1 month prior to entry close and again at 2 weeks prior to entry close.
3. The Committee will request volunteers for the position of Team Leader along with team entry submissions.
4. The Committee will be responsible for submission of the AWDF Team entries to the FCI.
5. The Committee will assist the AWDF FCI Team Leader as necessary.
6. The AWDF FCI Team will be filled by the following guidelines:
  - a. The top two eligible dog-handler teams are automatically chosen to represent the AWDF at the FCI IPO Championships and are subject to the FCI IPO Team qualification rules. (Note: These handlers do not need a second score as stated in B8 above.)
  - b. The remainder of the team will be chosen from the member club submissions using the highest average score from 2 national and/or international trials within a 12 month prior to entry closing date
  - c. A total of 3 alternates will be chosen using the same criteria as the rest of the team.
    - i. The first alternate may accompany the team to the Championships.
    - ii. The following two alternates will be utilized as necessary to fill the team.
7. The Committee has the authority to select additional dog-handler teams for the FCI Team, if there are not enough teams declared by the breed clubs.
8. The Committee Chair will give sufficient advance notice to the breed club Delegates and Presidents of any changes.
9. These rules are subject to change in accordance to current FCI regulations

**List of approved judges and decoys from Clubs**

Nothing has been received from the member delegates.

Al G. states that the FCI has asked in the past for a list of current decoys and a list of judges.

That this type of info is good to submit, the more we are involved the better off.

**Statistic form**

Update to include these lists of judges and decoys.

Al G needs this information for his trip in December.

## **New Business**

### **BSL update with Lisa Camuso**

Lisa is our legislative liaison and has been involved with this for 12 yrs  
Lisa gave a brief overview of our present work which included AWDF being involved in writing a successful ordinance on dangerous dogs. This ordinance has been voted on and is currently having a positive effect. She continued to remind us that the AWDF has gained quite a level of respect when present in legislative discussions against BSL& MSN and general discrimination towards working dogs.

The AWDF would like to thank Lisa for her continued involvement in the fight against these situations. Lisa stated she will be more active in attending our conference calls as well as update us more frequently.

### **2010 AWDF Championship Bids**

A suggestion was made to have submission due by the 2009 Championship  
Lyle R. suggested that it may be best that the bid should be submitted to the events committee 30days prior to the GBM

There was discussion about acquiring bids 2 yrs in advance. If a group would like to bid that far in advance it was suggested that they be very experienced in the process of running a large event.

The suggestion for the date for submission of bids for the 2010 event will be April 22, 2009.

### **Electric and prong collars**

Augusta F of USMRA wanted to poll the club delegates in regards each clubs position on the use of electric and prong collars. USMRA has forbid the use of either at their events. She also wanted to know AWDF's policy.

There was much discussion on the regulations that govern correction devices in Europe.

Sean O'Kane suggested that USA's new policy be considered

Glenn Stephenson suggested that AWDF develop guidelines

There was a comment that each group should govern their own clubs and develop their rules.

The concern of the public image came in to the discussion and Al G suggested creating a sub committee to develop a policy for AWDF

Volunteers for the sub-committee were Sean O'Kane, Augusta Farley, Ann P. & May Jacobson.

Sean O. made a motion to adjourn the meeting and May Jacobson seconded the motion

The meeting adjourned @10pm CST